

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1, 5, and 13-16 have been amended. These amendments are made to even more clearly recite the claimed invention, do not add prohibited new matter and are fully supported by the specification. Support for the amendments to the claims may be found, for example, on page at page 21, lines 12-21. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection set forth in the outstanding Office Action are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

The outstanding Office Action rejects claims 1, 4-5, 10 and 13-16, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over KAJI (U.S. Patent No. 5,268,839) in view of SCHUMACHER et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,532,442), and further in view of HANSTED (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0006826). Applicants traverse this rejection and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the same.

KAJI is directed to a translation method and system for communication between speakers of different languages. However, as conceded by the Examiner, KAJI does not disclose first data sets in which words or phrases are matched to respective identifiers and second data sets corresponding to words or phrases having the same meaning as the words or phrases corresponding to the respective identifiers of the first data sets. The Examiner relies on SCHUMACHER et al. to teach a first data set in which words or phrases are matched to respective identifiers and a second data set corresponding to words or phrases having the same meaning as the words or phrases corresponding to the respective identifiers of the first data sets. However, as conceded by the Examiner, the

combination of KAJI and SCHUMACHER et al. does not disclose a receiver that receives messages from a second processing apparatus when a user of the second apparatus has affirmatively accepted the transmitted messages. The Examiner, therefore, relies on HANSTED to teach a receiver that receives messages from a second apparatus when the user has affirmatively accepted the transmitted messages.

However, HANSTED does not disclose or even suggest that “scheduling is automatically performed, in response to an affirmative acceptance of a received message,” as recited in independent claims 1, 5, and 13-16. Furthermore, neither KAJI nor SCHUMACHER cure the deficiencies found in HANSTED. Accordingly, because KAJI, SCHUMACHER et al. and HANSTED, whether taken alone or in any proper combination, do not disclose or render obvious each and every element of the independent claims, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 4-5, 10 and 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on KAJI, SCHUMACHER et al. and HANSTED is respectfully requested.

Moreover, the rejection of claims 4 and 10 should be reconsidered and withdrawn, since claims 4 and 10 depend from independent claims 1 and 5, respectively, and are patentably distinguishable for at least the reasons provided above with respect to independent claims 1 and 5, as well as for additional reasons related to their own recitations.

Thus, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the outstanding rejections and an indication of the allowability of all of the claims in the present application.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that Examiner's rejection should be withdrawn. Entry and consideration of the present amendment, reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action, and allowance of the present application and all of the claims therein are respectfully requested and are now believed to be appropriate.

Although it is within the discretion of the Examiner to enter amendments made after a Final Office Action, Applicants submit that the amendments clarify previously recited claim elements, do not raise new issues, and thus should not necessitate a new search. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter the amendments. Applicants have made a sincere effort to place the present invention in condition for allowance and believe that they have now done so.

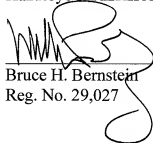
Any amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Should the Commissioner determine that an extension of time is required in order to render this response timely and/or complete, a formal request for an extension of time, under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), is herewith made in an amount equal to the time period required to render this response timely and/or complete. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any required extension of time fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

P23938.A14

If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding this response, or the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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